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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF

IPF:(1992-96) $ 14 100 000

(BRA/87/017) - Management of Development Projects and Improvement of Negotiation and Decision Making

Date of approval by the AC:[1/]	11 March 1992
Expected duration:	Four years
Proposed executing agency:	Government
Government implementing agency:	Institute of Economic and Social Planning
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$ 309 000 Source of funds: IPF
Government cost sharing:	$1 236 000
Previous UNDP budget:	$ 798 200
Total UNDP budget:	$2 343 200

Project background

The Training Centre for Economic Development (CENDEC) of the Institute of Economic and Social Planning (IPEA) has traditionally trained professionals in the area of planning since 1966. With the democratic transition that began in 1985, CENDEC was given more responsibilities and began promoting discussions on public policy, social reforms, democracy, trade and entrepreneurship, environment and other important issues through seminars, courses, workshops and round-tables that constitute an innovative way of providing inputs for policy making and management of public sector institutions.

In order to reinforce CENDEC's efforts in establishing its role as a forum for critical, open and democratic debate of public policies and their implications, the Government of Brazil requested UNDP assistance to promote a better understanding of the structural problems of the Brazilian economy and society, through the formulation of alternatives for overcoming problems and strengthening the analytical decision-making capacity of public servants. The original project document was signed in October 1988 with the following immediate objectives: (1) strengthen the capacity of CENDEC to establish itself as a forum for debate of public policies; (2) promote seminars to influence planning institutions for the solution of problems at the national and sectoral levels; (3) train professionals in national and regional development and in international negotiations; (4) improve CENDEC's Video Library for Development; and (5) develop training programmes to meet the needs of Government regarding the democratic changes in the country that includes the introduction of the new Constitution.

[1/] This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.

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The project has been in operation since the end of 1988 and has achieved important results, such as the organization of seven medium-term courses mainly in project planning with environmental concerns; nine seminars on public policy, social sector planning, sustainable development, and efficiency in social policies; four workshops in the fields of government and planning, and health and education. Two large symposiums for the general public were organized with the assistance of this project, as well as the preparation and editing of videos, acquisition and installation of data processing equipment and the publication of two books and 22 minor publications. Furthermore, CENDEC has served as a channel for debate and reorientation during the radical changes in the organization of the public sector, and seeks to fulfil its mandate in the present difficult economical and political situation of the country. To this end, further UNDP assistance was requested under the present approval.

Description of project

The proposed project revision will contribute to the modernization of the State which is the fifth concentration area of the Fifth Country Programme. The immediate objectives of the project remain to : (a) strengthen the capacity of IPEA and the Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Planning in policy analysis and planning; (b) design and implement a data base to provide the basic information that is required by IPEA to carry out studies and research; (c) modernize and improve the maintenance and utilization of the bibliographic and documental archives of IPEA; and (d) promote the publication and distribution of IPEA's work.

Project activities will include: (a) training approximately 100 professionals and civil servants of IPEA and the Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Planning, and of state and federal governments in the areas of public policies, environment, and project formulation and analysis; (b) providing an operational data bank with at least 50 officials of IPEA trained in the area of informatics; (c) establishing an automated system for archives control and information requests; and (d) strengthening the publication capacity of IPEA to produce at least eight books and 75 other publications.

Inputs

UNDP will provide 71 work-months of international and national short-term consultants in human resources development, regional planning, government planning, economic growth and social equity, financing of development, foreign debt and debt negotiation, international markets, productivity; group training programmes and in-service training for about 2,000 professionals; equipment for computerized information systems, archive control and training activities; administrative support; and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	364 000
Training	650 800
Equipment	371 800
Miscellaneous	158 400
Total	1 545 000

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